volume of traffic generated between two countries to the extent of 40 per cent by each trading country.

Vocational Education Centres in The Rural Areas

2371. SHRI SHANKER SINGH VAGHELA:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government propose to take to set up more vocational education centres in the rural areas to meet the local needs with the simultaneous provision of opportunities to absorb the local people for gainful employment; and

(b) what are the State-wise targets in this regard for the current and as well as next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Under the Central Scheme of Community Polytechnics, 46 polytechnics have been identified to act as focal points for transfer of technology and to promote rural development on scientific lines. Under the scope of the scheme these community polytechnics have the possibilities to set up extension centres in rural areas to meet local need for vocational/skill training through short-term non-formal courses in various trades. The Government has the proposal to cover 61 more community polytechnics under the scheme in the current year which in turn will set up more extension centres in the rural areas.

(b) No specific State-wise targets for establishing extension centres in rural areas have been laid down under the present scheme.

World Bank Loan for Railways

2372. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had negotiated a World Bank loan sometime in 1982 for the over all modernisation of the Indian Railways;

(b) if so, to what extent the World Bank loans has been utilised for the purpose for which it was obtained and what are the reasons for the non-utilisation of the amount of loan in full; and

(c) how does the non-utilisation of the amount of loan in full reflect on the future loans from the World Bank for the modernisation of the Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) A Credit Loan for 400 million was negotiated with the World Bank in 1982. This mainly covered:

(i) Setting up of the Diesel Component Works at Patiala;

(ii) Procurement of Prototype AC Electric Locomotives;

(iii) Procurement of components for high capacity freight wagons;

(iv) Procurement of Unit Exchange Spares for Locomotives;

(v) Procurement of Wheels & Axles.

(b) An amount of U.S. Dollar 33.8 million has been claimed from the Bank so far and commitments have been entered into for approximately U.S. Dollar 163 million. There has been some delay in the pace of utilisation of the loan so far for various technical and administrative reasons.

(c) The loan is expected to be utilised in full. The present pace of utilisation is not expected to have any impact on future World Bank loans for modernisation of Indian Railways.